

WISHA ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WAC)
MEETING MINUTES
September 13, 2006
L&I Headquarters Building, S126

NOTICE

Many individuals are sensitive to fragrances, colognes, scented lotions, etc. Please be courteous of respiratory sensitivities and do not wear fragrances to WISHA Advisory Committee meetings. Thank you.

Members Present: Tom Egan, Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals; Ed Wood, Jr., Communication Workers of America Local 7818; Tim Gottberg, GLY Construction; Claude Golden, The Boeing Company; Michael Roozen, Washington Bulb Company; Sharon Ness, United Staff Nurses Local 141 (left early) and Steve Cant, Department of Labor & Industries

Members Not Present: Randy Loomans, International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 302; Vaughn Mowery, Safeway, Inc. and Bob Abbott, WA and Northern Idaho District Council of Laborers

Guests: Janice Camp, University of Washington, Gregory Chryst, OSHA Region X, R. Kelly George, Nucor Steel, Sarah Beznoska, House Commerce and Labor Committee, Donovan Quebedeaux, Building Industry Association of Washington and Ann Jarvis, ABC of Western Washington

Staff Present: Jim Fernald, Mary Ann Jackson, Michael Foley, Anne Soiza, Gail Hughes, Mel James, Ron Langley, Lorne Sanford and Shaley Marzolf

Recorder: Gerald Franks

Opening Remarks – Steve Cant

- The most recent DOSH GMAP and performance goal information was distributed. The WAC will receive regular GMAP updates, at their request, to give DOSH process direction and feedback.
- A list of 2007 L&I request legislation was distributed. DOSH has requested no legislation for the upcoming session.
- Steve said that they have decided to make a number of changes within the plain language and standards areas of the Technical Services Program after an organization and resources review of those programs. Several individuals will be moving to the Training and Outreach program, several individuals will be moving to Standards under Tracy Spencer and another will move to the Compliance Program under Dan McMurdie. The rule redesign and regular Standards manager positions will be combined into one. They plan to continue the plain language rulemaking initiative but in a more efficient manner. Gail Hughes will be leaving the Standards Manager position in October to join the Region 3 management team as the new Regional Manager.

SHARP Update – Michael Foley

SHARP field activities are in the middle of collecting data for state based surveillance projects in safe patient handling, auto collision repair and the trucking industry. Scott gave a presentation last month in Spokane at the WA Trucking Association conference about the trucking

surveillance project. We recently received grant monies from NIOSH in support of our FACE program and other SHARP projects.

Michael also distributed the following SHARP reports and informational material (also available through the SHARP website www.lni.wa.gov/safety/research):

- A SHARP report about work-related agricultural fatalities in Washington, 1998-2005.
- A fatality narrative about a carpenter that fell from a wall top plate.
- A workplace exposure alert for diacetyl, a food flavoring and butter flavoring ingredient.
- The first edition of the Trucking Injury Reduction Emphasis project newsletter.
- A SHARP Focus newsletter about hazards identified in the Trucking Initiative.
- A “Journal of Safety Research” article about work-related deaths in Washington, 1998-2002.
- A study of stilts injuries in construction and compensation claims by Carolyn Whitaker.
- A booklet on preventing carbon monoxide poisoning from forklifts.

Committee Priorities – Mary Ann Jackson, Michael Foley, Jim Fernald

Michael reviewed the small business injury data tables that the WAC requested at the June meeting. He noted that with few exceptions, smaller employers in most industries have higher rates of injuries and claims. Employees of small businesses make up approximately two-thirds of the workforce in Washington. There will be more injury data discussion at the November meeting.

Jim gave the WAC an update on their effort to update the DOSH targeting system. The targeting system evaluation has been completed and the updated version will be rolled out to the field by the end of September. The system utilized several different parameters based on injury and illness data, inspection history, etc. and will be utilized by both consultation and compliance services. They found, for example, that the transportation warehouse industry has a very high injury rate and therefore they developed a safety and health targeting list for that industry. They will look at industry type as well as individual companies. The committee will receive periodic updates on the new targeting effort to give feedback and direction.

Steve said DOSH wants to better utilize their resources by visiting more worksites they haven’t visited before, rather than repetitious visits to the same site, and also by evaluating their staff workplace inspection assignment protocol. They have increased policy and manual training for enforcement staff this summer and they continually audit their staff on what they should or shouldn’t be doing. A budget proposal to increase funding for staff training has been submitted to the governor’s office and there is an effort to raise wages to help reduce staff turnover in the regions.

Mary Anne discussed the nine most popular priorities from the June meeting. After some discussion, the committee decided to consolidate the nine priorities into the following statement:

The committee will focus on reducing illnesses and injury by reviewing information on types of illnesses and injury and drilling it down to root causes.

We will address this priority by:

- **Earlier and increased involvement in rule-making.**
- **Receiving data in advance of meetings so we are prepared.**
- **Improving communication and coordination with business, labor and other government organizations.**

A copy of the priority statement will be sent to committee members and posted on the WAC website.

Draft Policy on Cooperative Agreements – Mel James, Steve Cant

DOSH has entered into two cooperative agreements (formerly referred to as "partnerships") with the Washington State Farm Bureau and the National Federation of Independent Businesses. They support agreements that promote voluntary and organizational support for better safety programs on the ground in the workplace, especially those related to small businesses. However, they recognize that they should have had an overarching policy in place governing these agreements and covering such things as content, review, approval, and posting. Before they enter into any new agreements, they plan to put a policy in place and would like the committee's assistance in reviewing and finalizing this policy.

Mel said the main difference between cooperative agreements and the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) is that co-ops are geared more for associations, organizations and small employers as opposed to the VPP being more resource intense, worksite specific and geared for larger employers. The draft policy is being reviewed by industrial insurance agents and the Attorney General's Office. Steve said although he would like the WAC members to submit their initial comments by September 29th, the draft policy will go through several revisions before being finalized.

Download Your Book of Rules – Gail Hughes

Gail said the purpose of this Innovation team project was to develop software for the Safety website so that customers could get a list of safety and health rules personalized for their business. This is done by making a connection between the list they get and their answers to the questions asked of them. Then they are given the option to download their personalized book of rules. The goal of this is to reduce customer requests for printed rules, which then would cause a decrease in printing costs, mailing costs and e-mail/telephone inquiries. They envision this resulting in increased employer knowledge of safety and health rules for their business which, in turn, will increase compliance and worker safety and decrease worker injury and illness. A prototype site is currently being developed for usability try-outs with external stakeholders and they hope to launch the program to the customer's site by summer, 2007. The Innovations staff is currently giving presentations to groups around the state. Information about the project will be available at the L&I booth during the governor's conference.

Gail also distributed an update on current DOSH rules projects. An advisory committee is being formed to provide guidance on the fall protection rule update.

Outreach Workshops/Governor's Conference Update – Anne Soiza

Education and Outreach (E&O) is trying some innovating ways to present workshops. They recently partnered with Gary Smith of the Independent Business Association to put on heat stress workshops via computer and phone so employers could follow along with the E&O instructor step-by-step on their phones rather than traveling to a regional office to take the class in person. Gary said this worked out great for his members. They are also partnering with the construction apprenticeship Duwamish Center group lead by Mark Maher on some presentations.

The Governor's Safety and Health Conference will be September 26-27 in Spokane. The Board is holding the first Small Business Forum the afternoon of September 27. Admission is free to small business members. Small businesses will learn about writing safety programs, procedures for first industrial insurance claims, etc.

Several recently published Injury Fact Sheets were distributed. E&O currently has 27 available online and more are being added regularly. Anne said they have had a lot of stakeholder input into the fact sheet's format and encouraged the WAC to contact her staff if they had any suggestions.

Next Meeting – All

The next regular meeting of the WAC will be on November 8, 2006, from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Tumwater Guest House Inn.

Tentative agenda items for November:

- Clear Rule Writing/Book of Rules Update
- Small Business Injury Data Discussion
- DOSH GMAP Update
- Targeting Update

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Action Items:

WHO	WHAT
Gerald	Send updated priority statement to committee members and post on website (DONE)

Future meetings:

TBA